

News Release

April 2, 2018

Contact:

Laura Maher, Strategic Communications Manager

Phone: 779-348-7331

E-mail: Laura.Maher@rockfordil.gov

Office of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention Outlines Details to Solicit Survivor Feedback

ROCKFORD, III. – At a news conference today, Jennifer Cacciapaglia, Manager of the Office of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention, outlined details for soliciting sexual assault survivor feedback which will be used to direct the work of her office.

Working with survivors, the City of Rockford and Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC) have developed a detailed survey which will be used as a tool to help learn how to respond to and support survivors.

"The voices of survivors of sexual violence are critical to driving our efforts and shaping our work to determine the most effective, respectful, healing community response in the areas of prevention, protection and prosecution," explains Cacciapaglia. "Sexual assault often goes hand in hand with domestic violence and sex trafficking. Survivor input is invaluable to informing my office's work."

RSAC and Youth Services Network will administer the survey to any survivor who would like to provide feedback. For more information on completing the survey in person, survivors can call RSAC at 815-636-9811. Survivors can also fill the survey out anonymously online at http://www.rockfordsexualassaultcounseling.org/.

"We respect the experience of survivors and, as a community, we need to hear your collective voices. With your feedback the work of improving the response to sexual violence can continue," says Maureen Mostacci from Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling. "For those who can share, we thank you in advance for your courage and help. Please know that Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling will assist you in any way we can so your voice can be heard."

The survey does not have an end date, and feedback will be continuously gathered. All information will be kept anonymous.